



# Brownfields 2004 Grant Fact Sheet

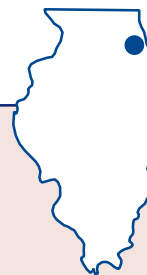
## *Cicero, IL*

### EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfields site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, the President signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

### Community Description

The City of Cicero was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Cicero (population 85,616) is a high-density suburb of Chicago with a rapidly growing, mostly minority population. Approximately 77 percent of the city's residents are Hispanic. The unemployment rate is almost 10 percent, and 15.5 percent have incomes that are at or below the poverty level. The three census tracts that make up the target area (total population 25,791) are almost twice as densely populated as the city, and the average income is 10 percent below the city's level. There are many underutilized and vacant properties in the target area, and most are zoned for industrial use. The city would



### Assessment Grant

New  
2004

\$200,000 for hazardous substances  
\$150,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected the City of Cicero for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to conduct community outreach activities, inventory and prioritize brownfields sites located within the 1.2-square-mile target area, conduct Phase I and Phase II site assessments on selected sites, and develop cleanup strategies for sites selected for redevelopment. Petroleum grant funds will be used to perform Phase I and Phase II site assessments at locations known to have had underground storage tanks, and to conduct remediation planning.

### Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team  
312-886-7576  
<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: Cicero, IL  
708-656-3600, ext 448

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

like to redevelop these properties for commercial/retail, residential, and greenspace uses that would better fit the needs of the community.